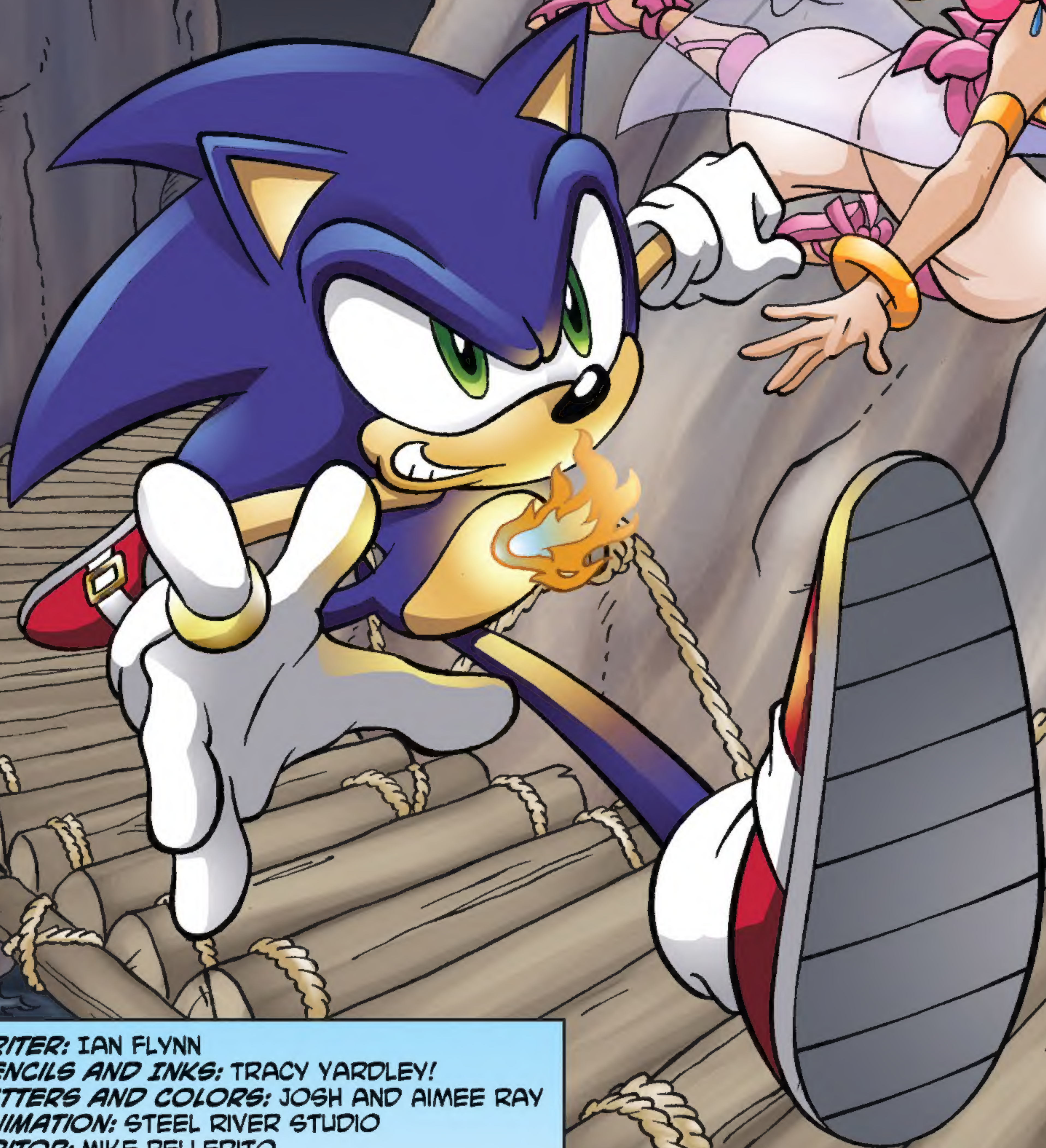


SARAB, SPIRITS and Sonic Speed

CALLED UPON BY *SHAHRA*, GENIE OF THE RING, *SONIC* THE HEDGEHOG HAS ENTERED THE BOOK OF 1,001 ARABIAN NIGHTS TO SAVE THE FANTASY WORLD - AND HIS OWN!



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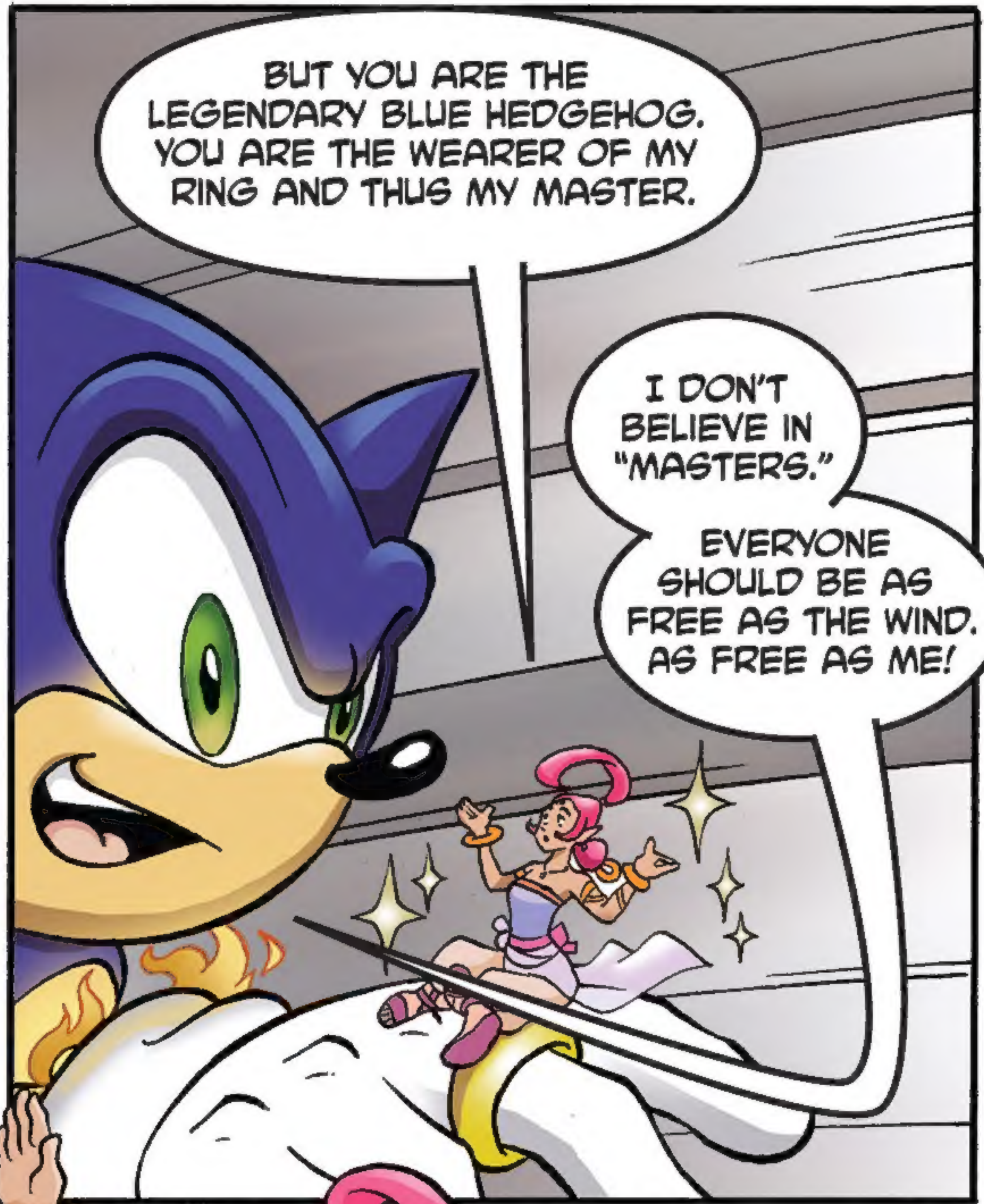
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ROBERT LEFFLER AND
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SEGA LICENSING AND
SEGA STUDIO, USA



MASTER, IF I MIGHT TROUBLE YOU FOR A MOMENT ...

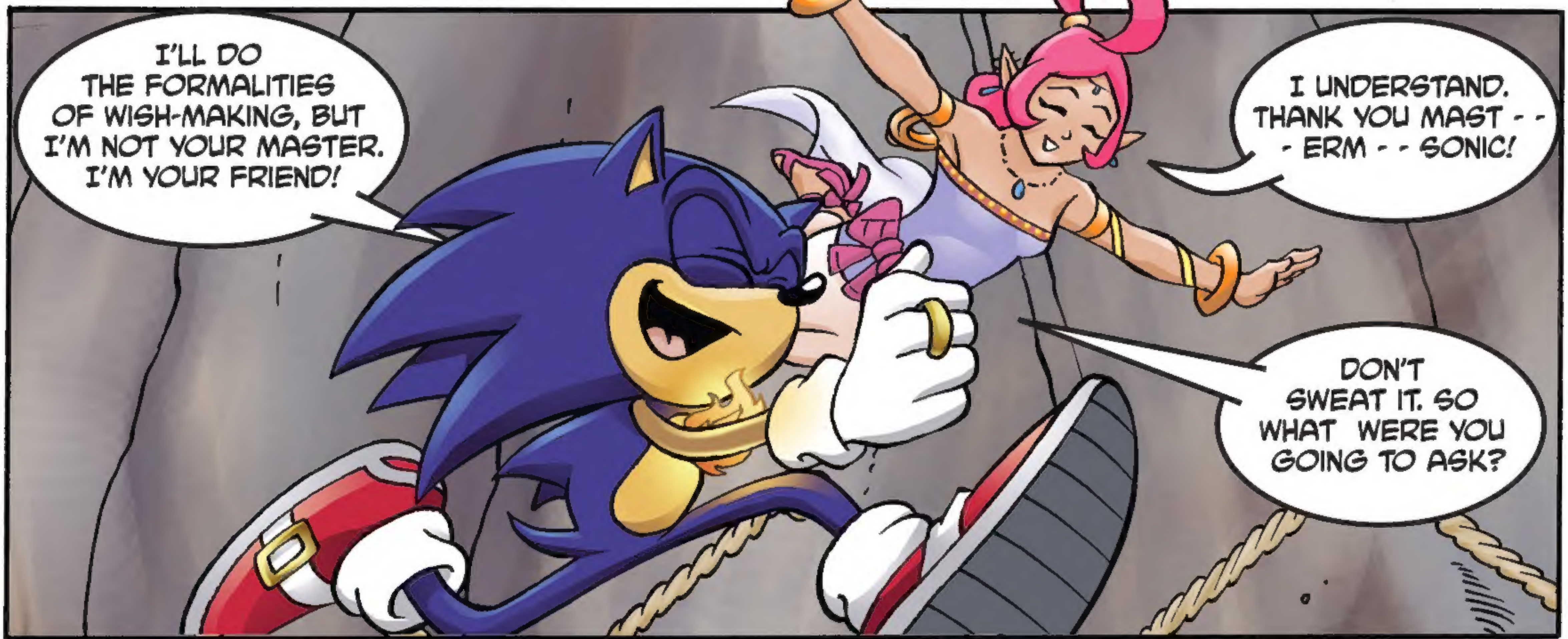
SURE THING, SHAHRA. BUT FIRST, THIS WHOLE "MASTER" THING HAS GOT TO STOP.



BUT YOU ARE THE LEGENDARY BLUE HEDGEHOG. YOU ARE THE WEARER OF MY RING AND THUS MY MASTER.

I DON'T BELIEVE IN "MASTERS."

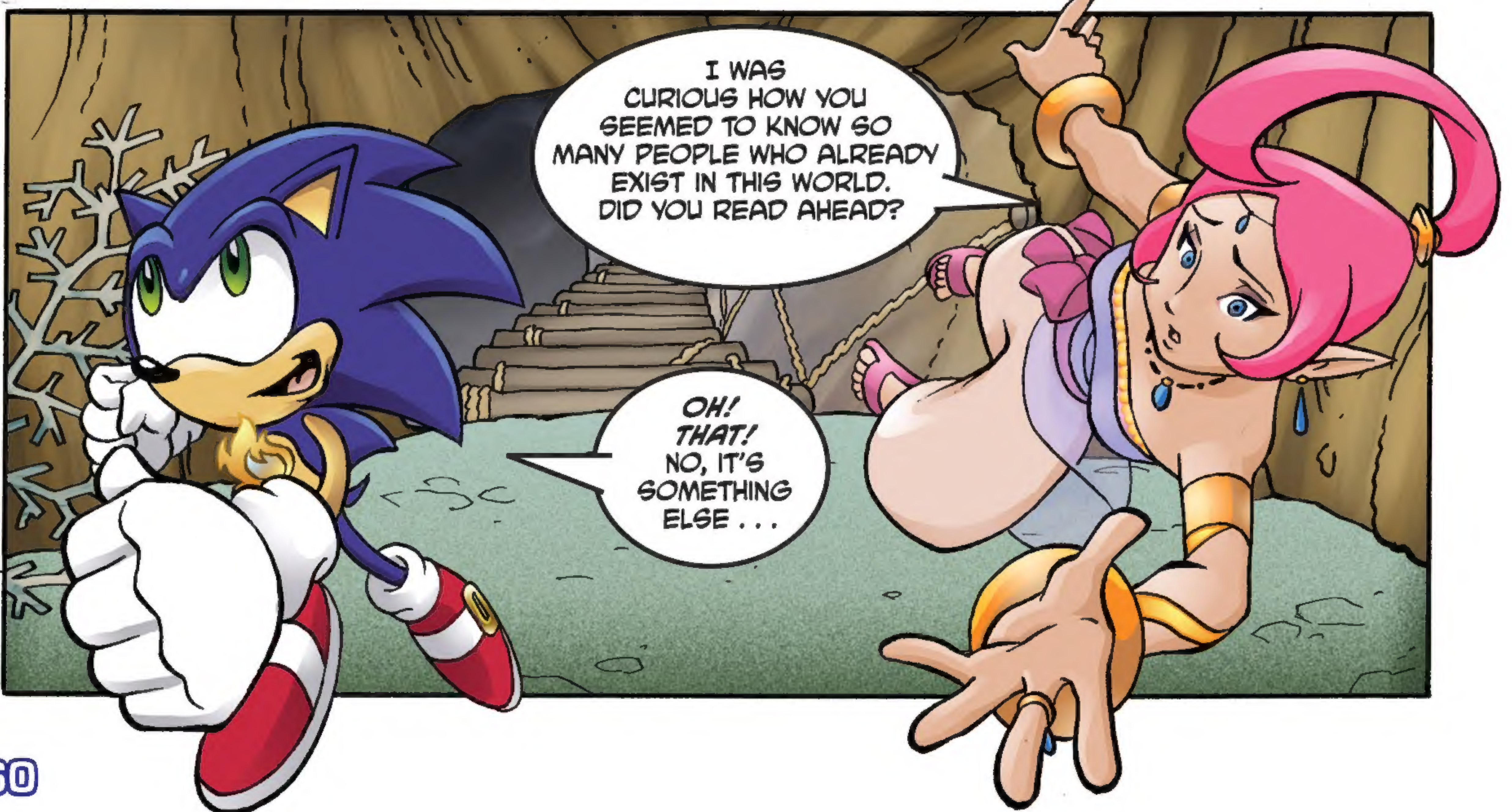
EVERYONE SHOULD BE AS FREE AS THE WIND. AS FREE AS ME!



I'LL DO THE FORMALITIES OF WISH-MAKING, BUT I'M NOT YOUR MASTER. I'M YOUR FRIEND!

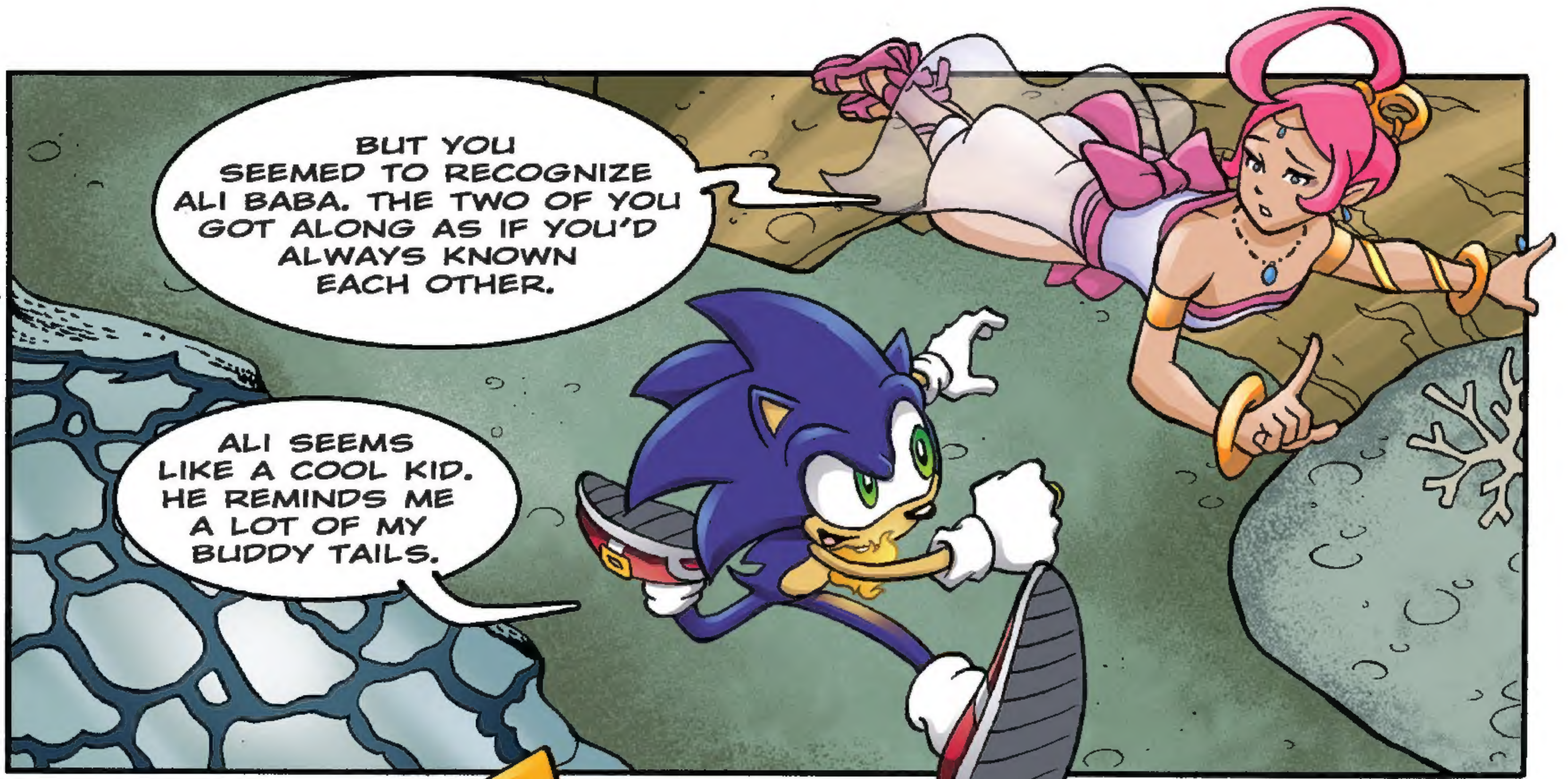
I UNDERSTAND. THANK YOU MAST - - ERM - - SONIC!

DON'T SWEAT IT. SO WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO ASK?



I WAS CURIOUS HOW YOU SEEMED TO KNOW SO MANY PEOPLE WHO ALREADY EXIST IN THIS WORLD. DID YOU READ AHEAD?

OH! THAT! NO, IT'S SOMETHING ELSE ...

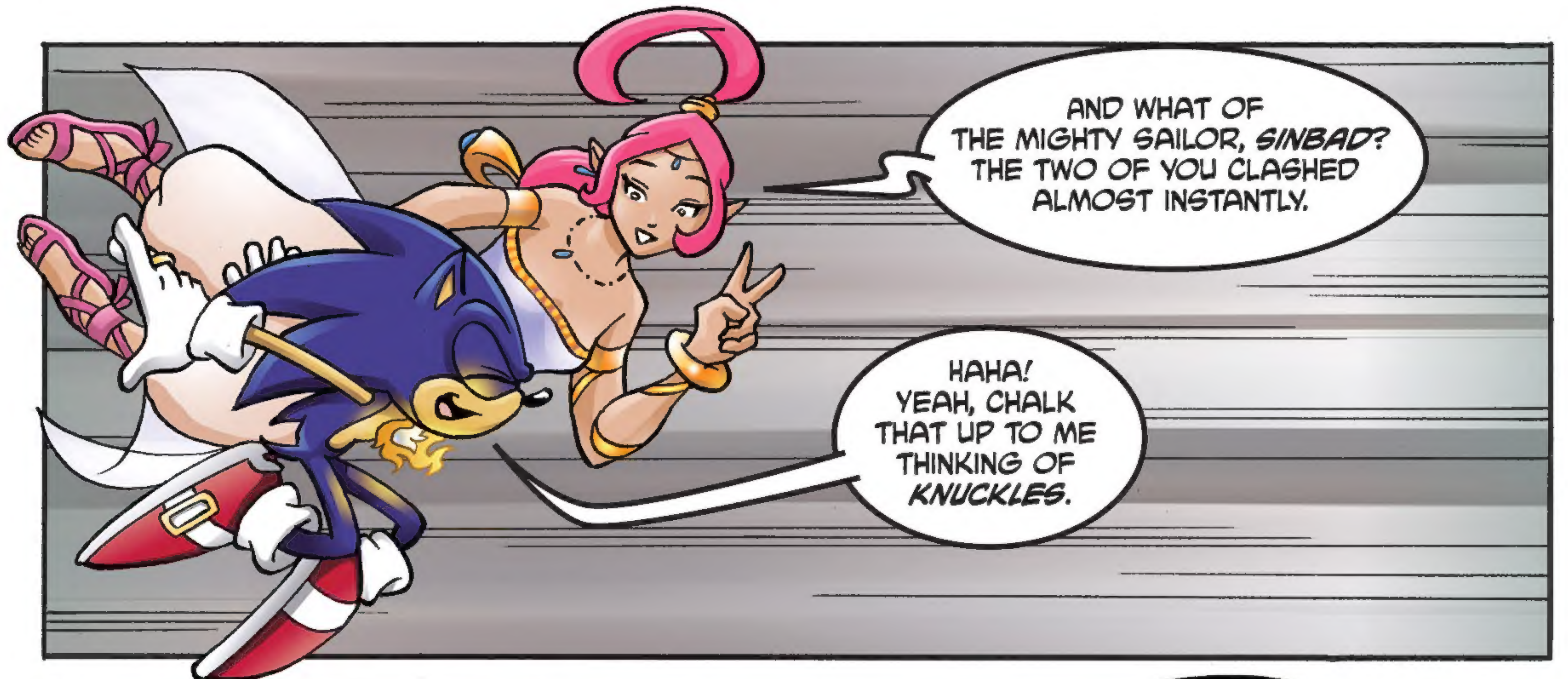


BUT YOU SEEMED TO RECOGNIZE ALI BABA. THE TWO OF YOU GOT ALONG AS IF YOU'D ALWAYS KNOWN EACH OTHER.

ALI SEEMS LIKE A COOL KID. HE REMINDS ME A LOT OF MY BUDDY TAILS.

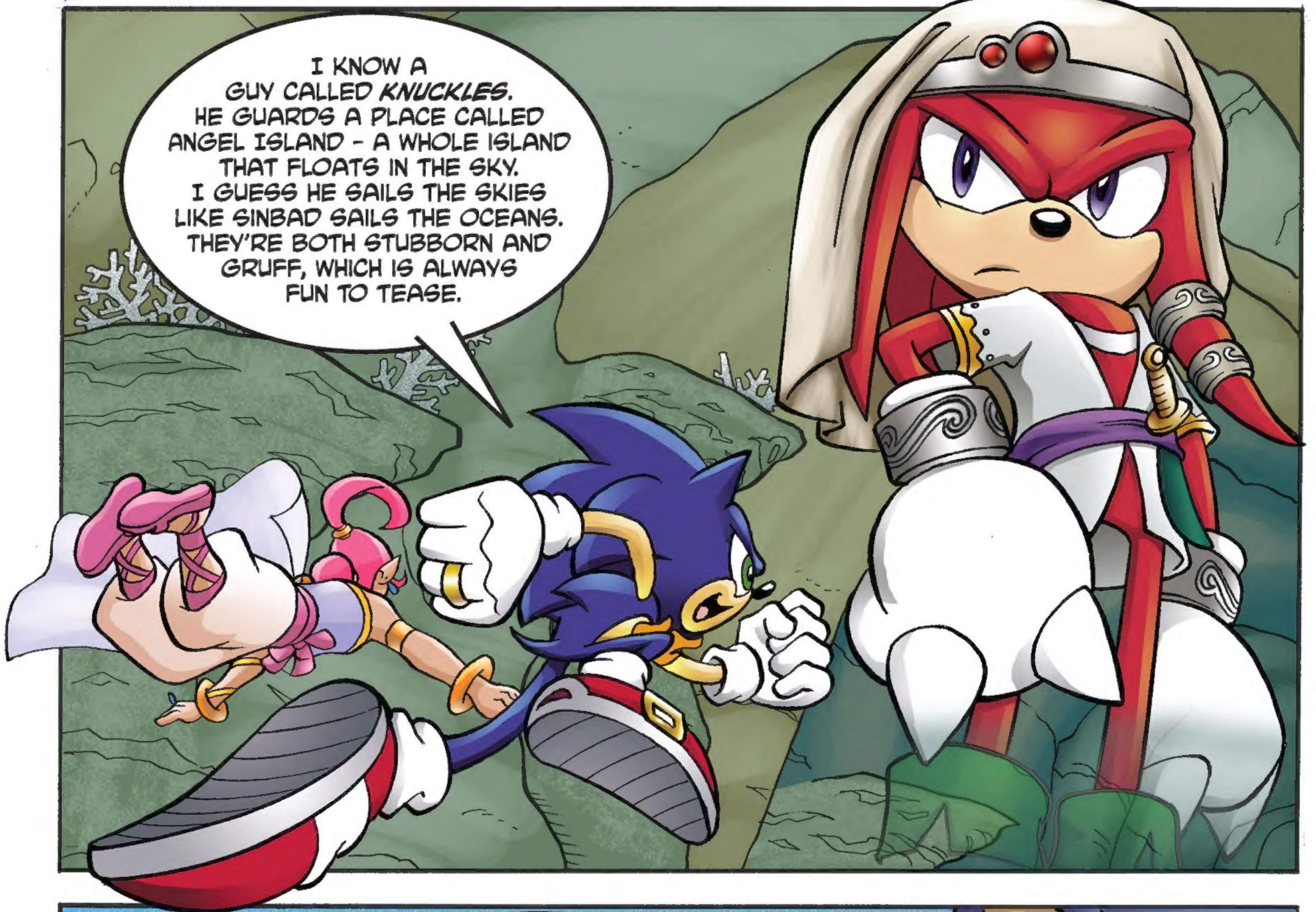


BACK HOME THERE'S THIS TWO TAILED FOX WHO'S LIKE A BROTHER TO ME. HE'S SUPER-SMART AND FOLLOWS ME ON PRETTY MUCH EVERY ADVENTURE. I THINK IT WAS ALI BABA'S YOUTH AND CONFIDENCE THAT MADE ME THINK OF MY FRIEND. WELL... THAT AND THE TWO TAILS.



AND WHAT OF THE MIGHTY SAILOR, SINBAD? THE TWO OF YOU CLASHED ALMOST INSTANTLY.

HAHA! YEAH, CHALK THAT UP TO ME THINKING OF KNUCKLES.

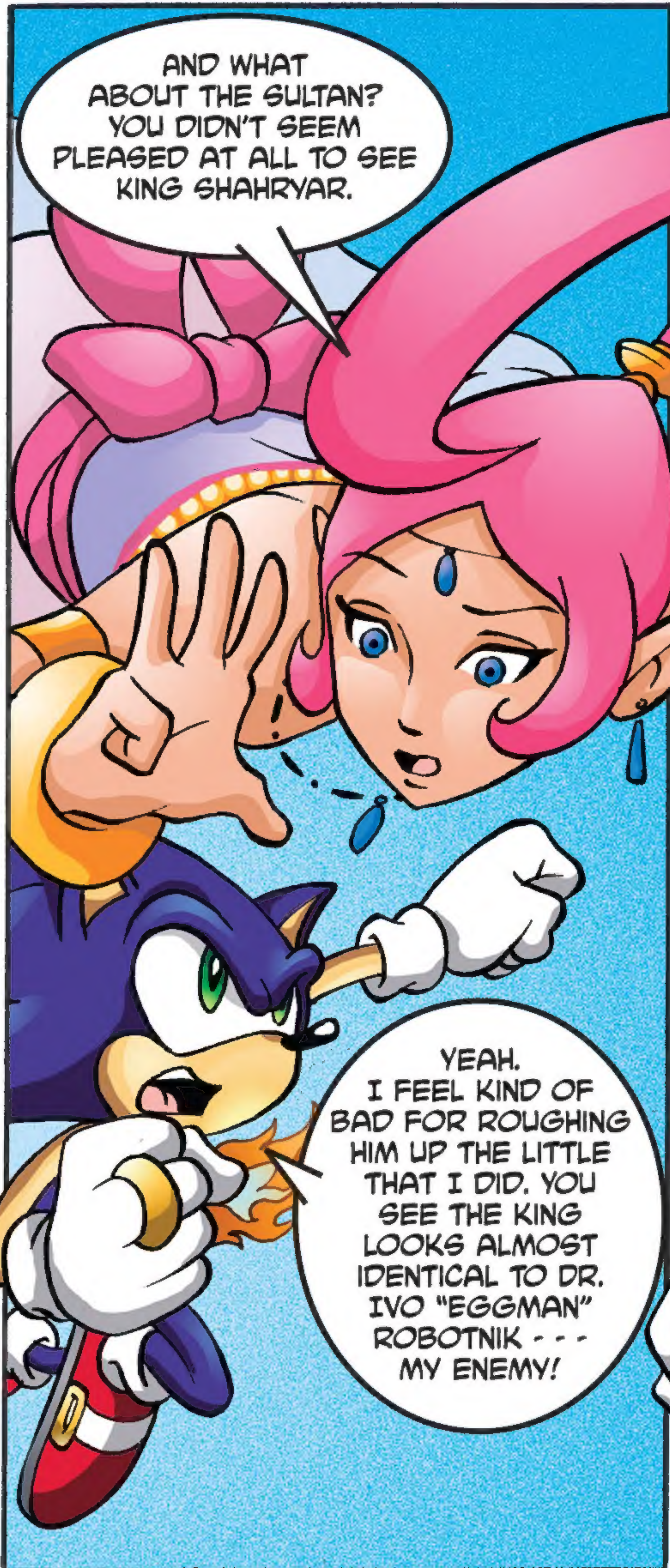


I KNOW A GUY CALLED KNUCKLES. HE GUARDS A PLACE CALLED ANGEL ISLAND - A WHOLE ISLAND THAT FLOATS IN THE SKY. I GUESS HE SAILS THE SKIES LIKE SINBAD SAILS THE OCEANS. THEY'RE BOTH STUBBORN AND GRUFF, WHICH IS ALWAYS FUN TO TEASE.



AN ENTIRE ISLAND IN THE SKY? IT SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING MAGICAL ENOUGH TO EXIST HERE.

COME TO THINK OF IT, SINBAD STRIKES ME AS A BIT SMARTER. BUT THAT'S NOT SAYING MUCH.



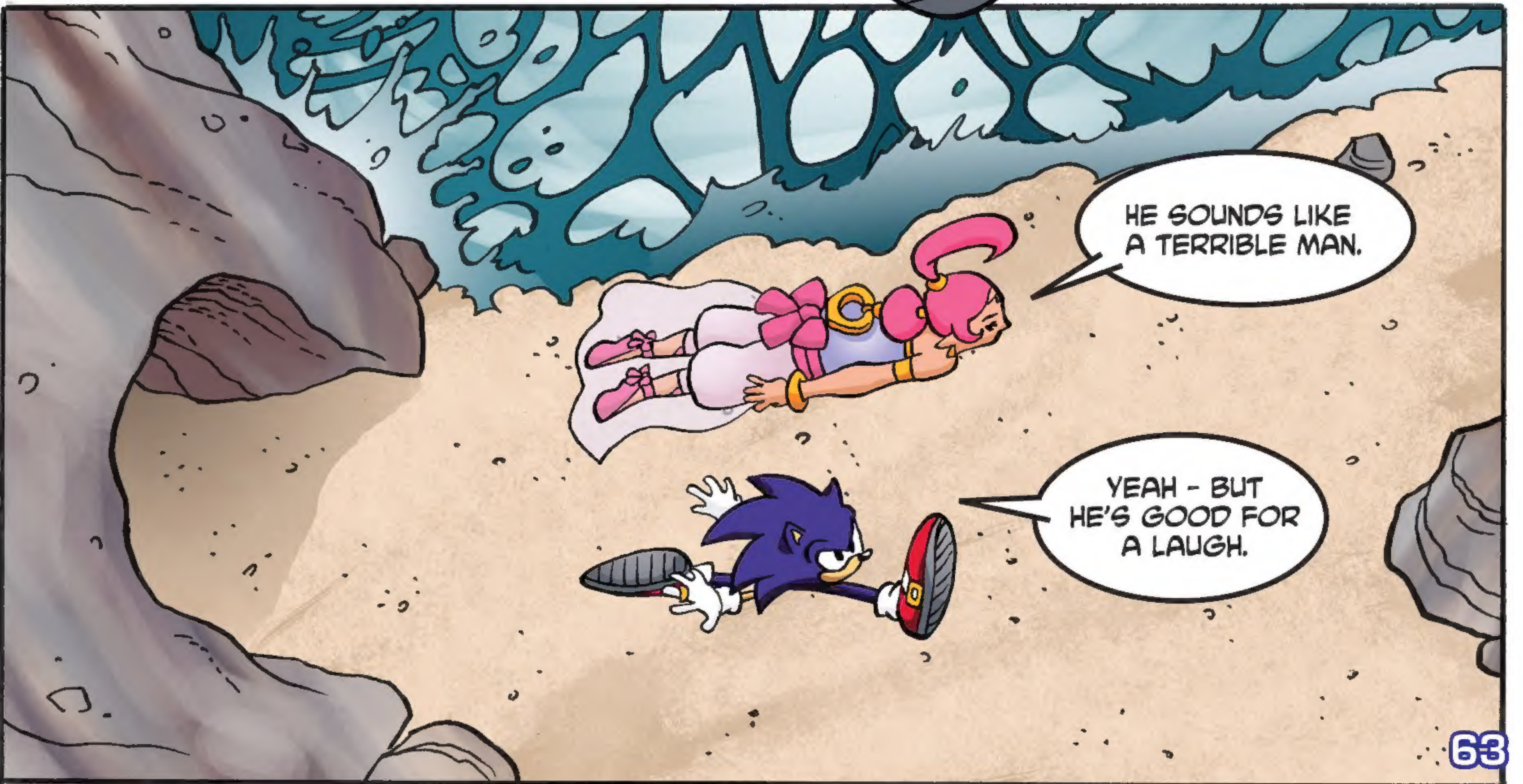
AND WHAT ABOUT THE SULTAN? YOU DIDN'T SEEM PLEASSED AT ALL TO SEE KING SHAHRYAR.

YEAH. I FEEL KIND OF BAD FOR ROUGHING HIM UP THE LITTLE THAT I DID. YOU SEE THE KING LOOKS ALMOST IDENTICAL TO DR. IVO "EGGMAN" ROBOTNIK - - - MY ENEMY!



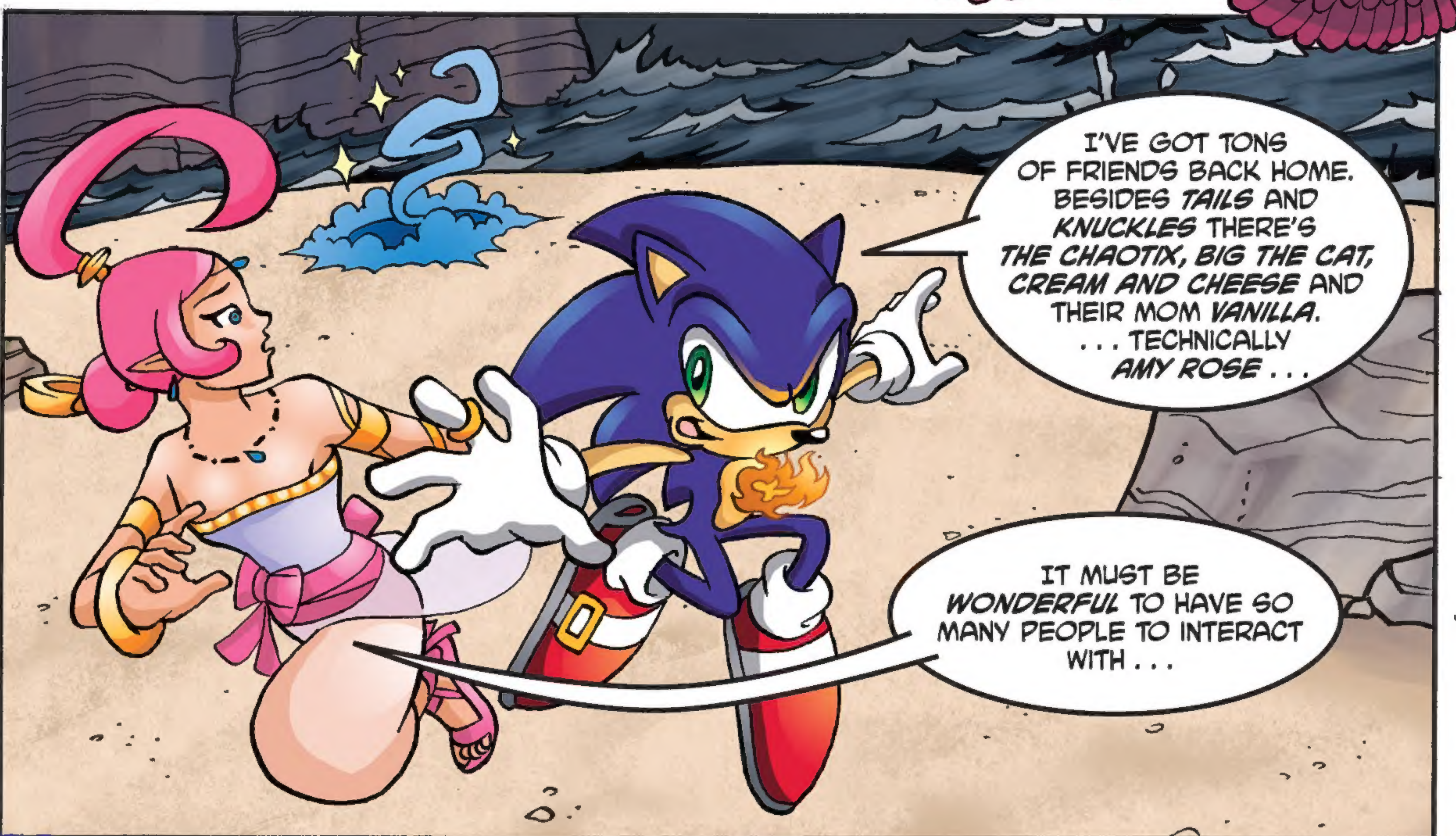
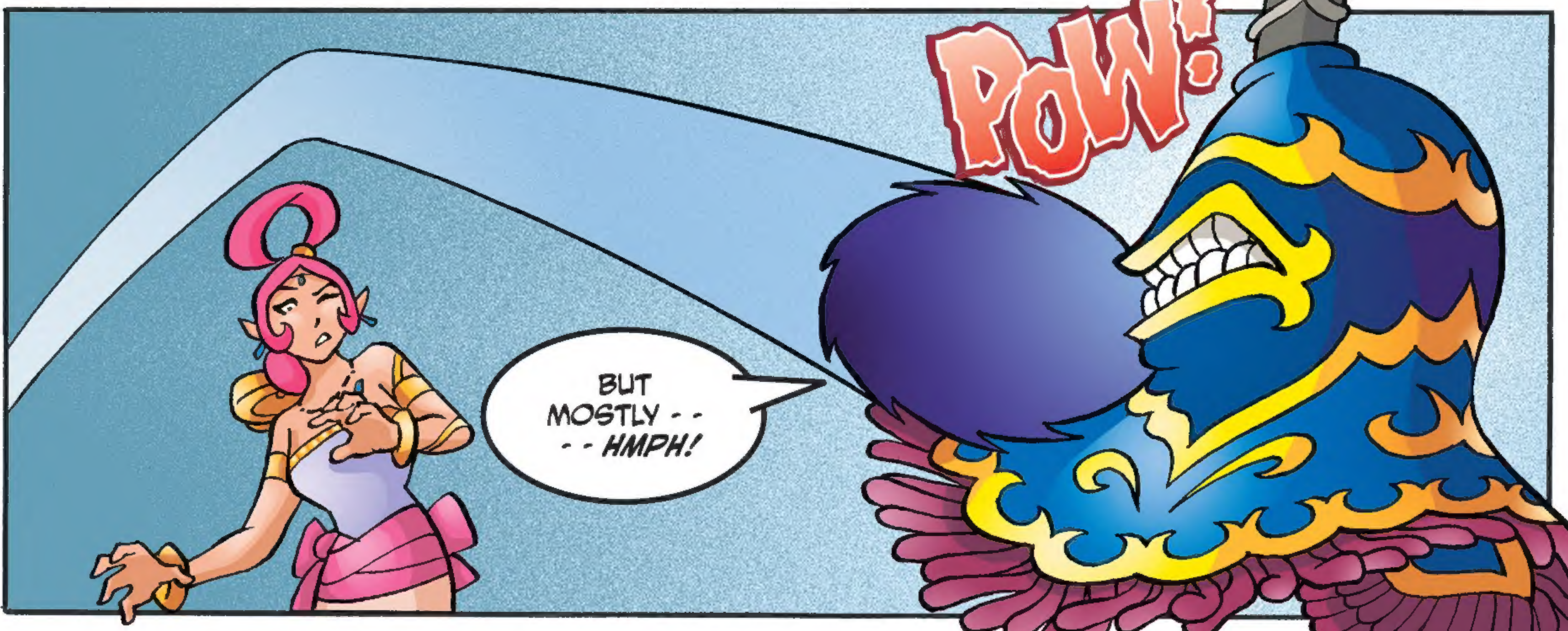
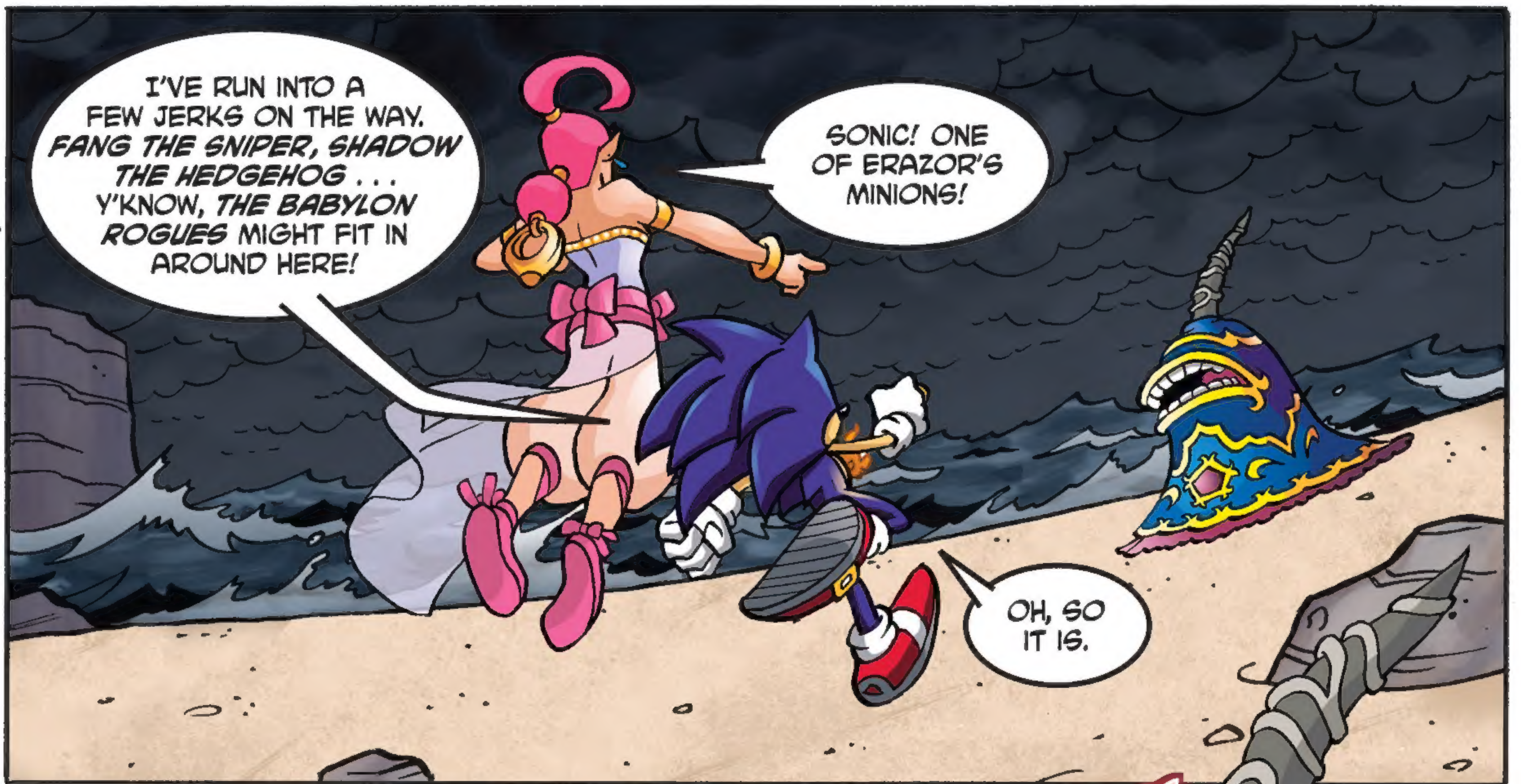
YOU HAVE ENEMIES?

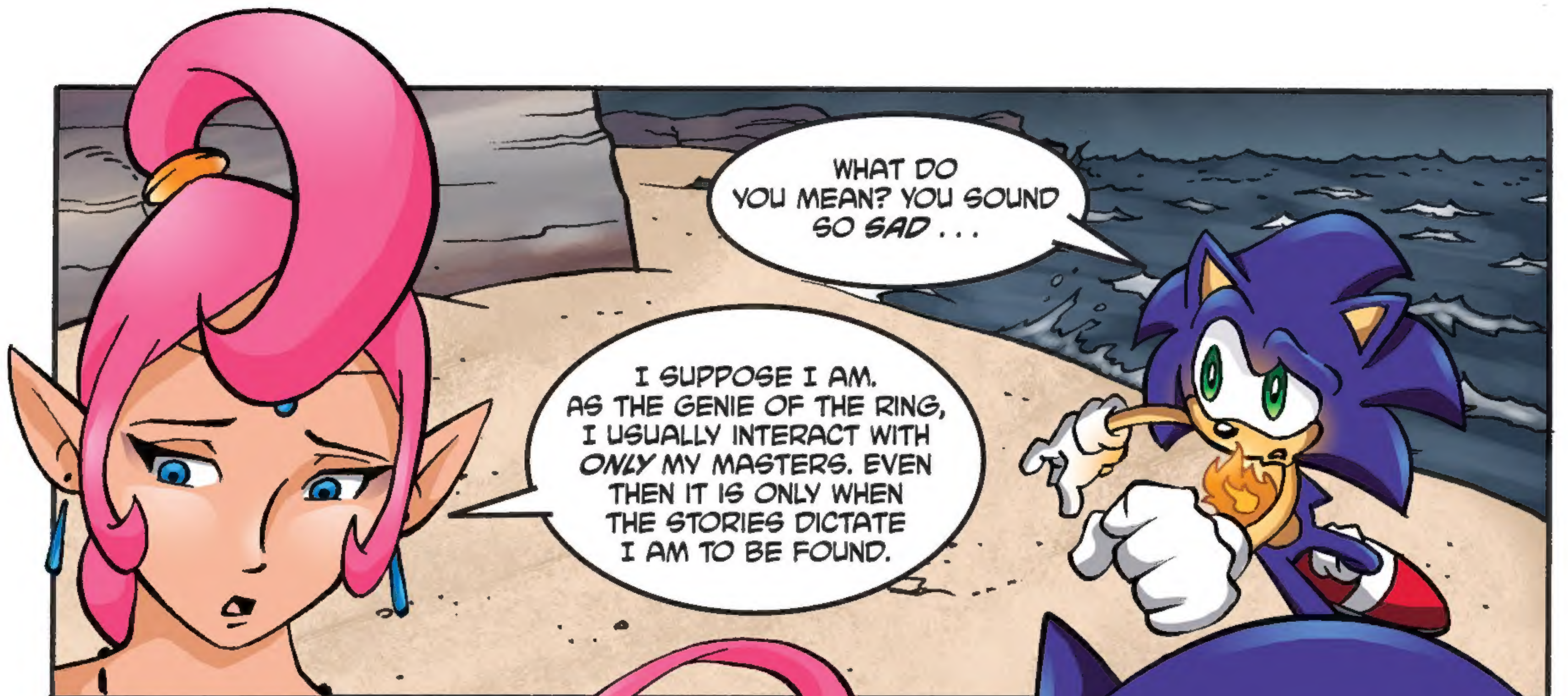
NOT TOO MANY, BUT HE'S CHIEF AMONG 'EM. THE GUY'S A GENIUS BUT ALL HE DOES WITH THAT BRAIN POWER IS TRY TO CONQUER THE WORLD WITH HIS MACHINES. I WOULDN'T SAY HE'S AS NASTY AS ERAZOR, BUT HE'S NOT ANY BETTER EITHER.



HE SOUNDS LIKE A TERRIBLE MAN.

YEAH - BUT HE'S GOOD FOR A LAUGH.





WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU SOUND SO SAD ...

I SUPPOSE I AM. AS THE GENIE OF THE RING, I USUALLY INTERACT WITH ONLY MY MASTERS. EVEN THEN IT IS ONLY WHEN THE STORIES DICTATE I AM TO BE FOUND.



I DO NOT HAVE ANY FRIENDS, OR EVEN COMPANIONS OUTSIDE OF MY MASTERS. I THINK I WOULD EVEN LIKE TO HAVE AN ENEMY JUST TO HAVE SOMEONE TO BE PASSIONATE ABOUT.



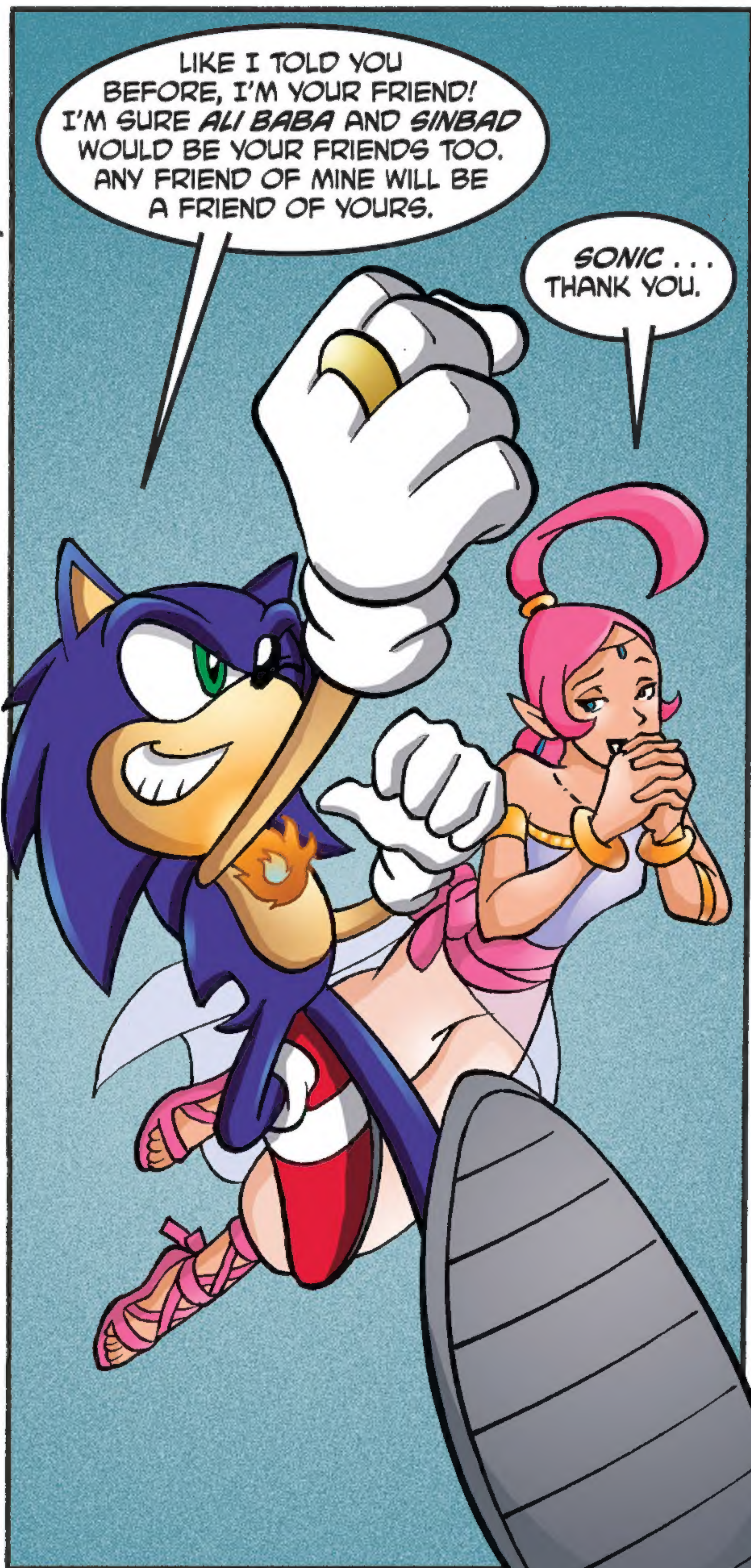
NOT EVEN OTHER SPIRITS - LIKE THE ONE I JUST BOPPED? AND WHAT ABOUT ERAZOR?

THE SPIRITS YOU SEE HAVE BEEN CREATED BY THE WORDS STOLEN BY ERAZOR HIMSELF. THEY ONLY EXIST FROM HIS MALICE AND TO DO HIS WILL.



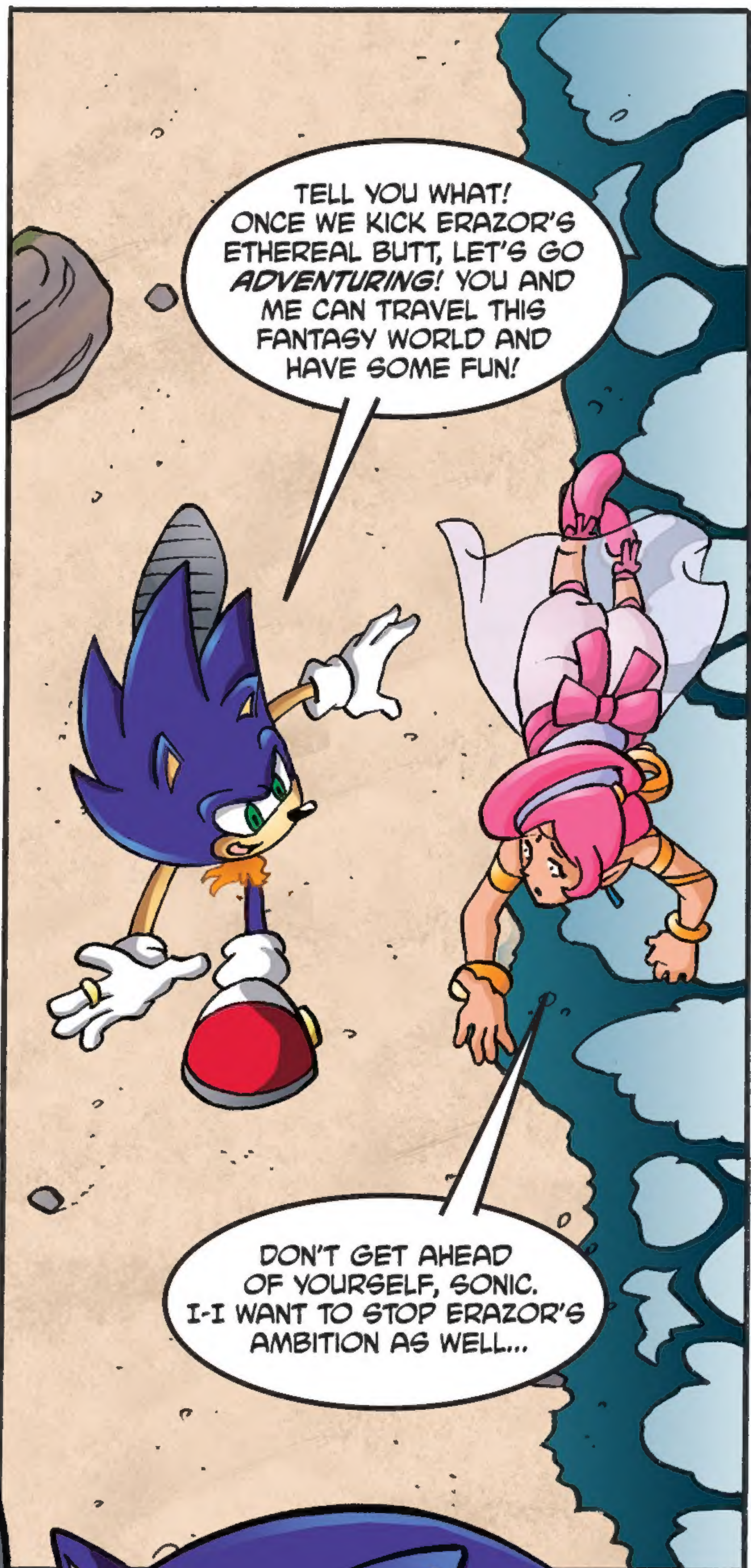
AND AS FOR ERAZOR ... WELL ...

CHEER UP, SHAHRA!



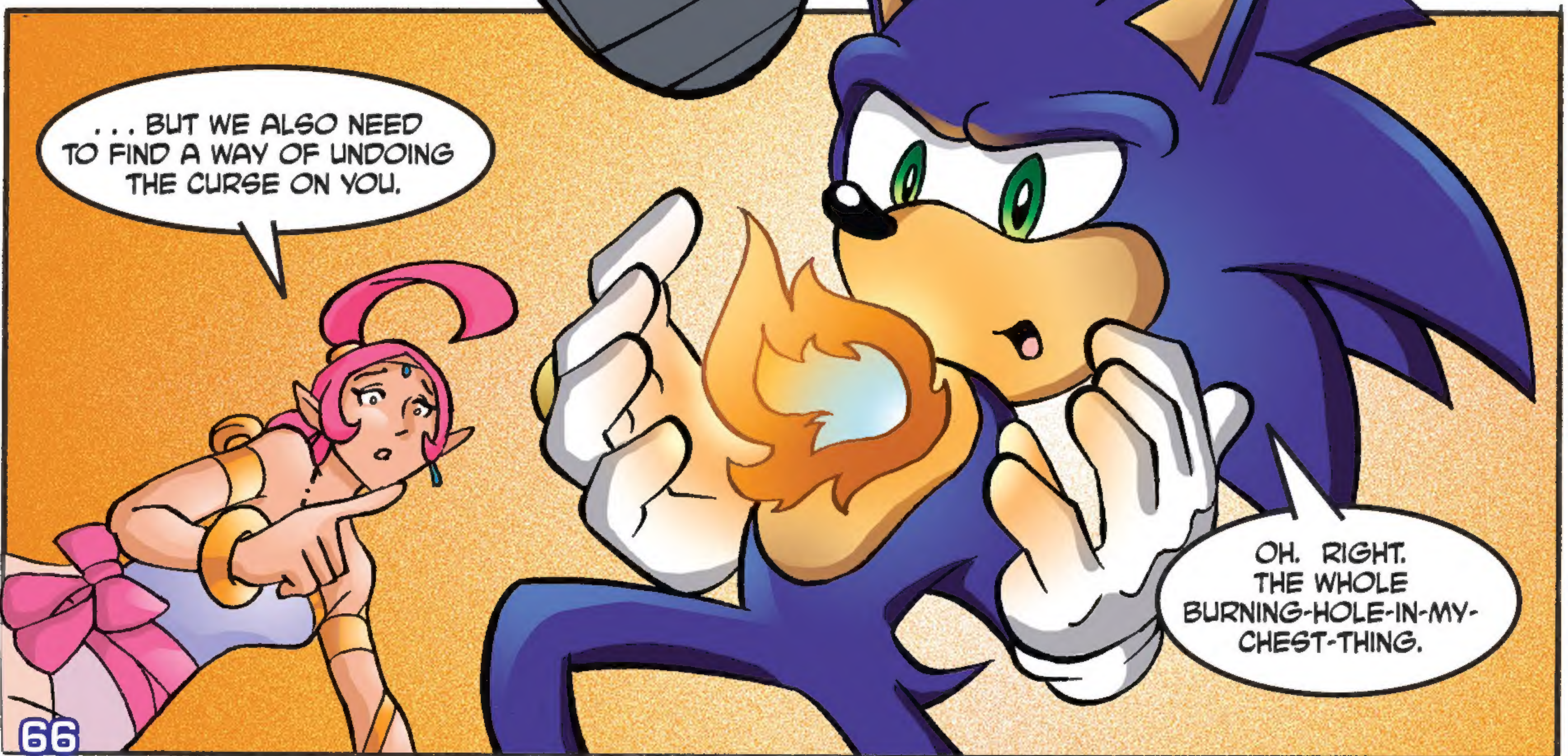
LIKE I TOLD YOU BEFORE, I'M YOUR FRIEND! I'M SURE *ALI BABA* AND *SINBAD* WOULD BE YOUR FRIENDS TOO. ANY FRIEND OF MINE WILL BE A FRIEND OF YOURS.

SONIC... THANK YOU.



TELL YOU WHAT! ONCE WE KICK ERAZOR'S ETHEREAL BUTT, LET'S GO *ADVENTURING!* YOU AND ME CAN TRAVEL THIS FANTASY WORLD AND HAVE SOME FUN!

DON'T GET AHEAD OF YOURSELF, SONIC. I-I WANT TO STOP ERAZOR'S AMBITION AS WELL...



... BUT WE ALSO NEED TO FIND A WAY OF UNDOING THE CURSE ON YOU.

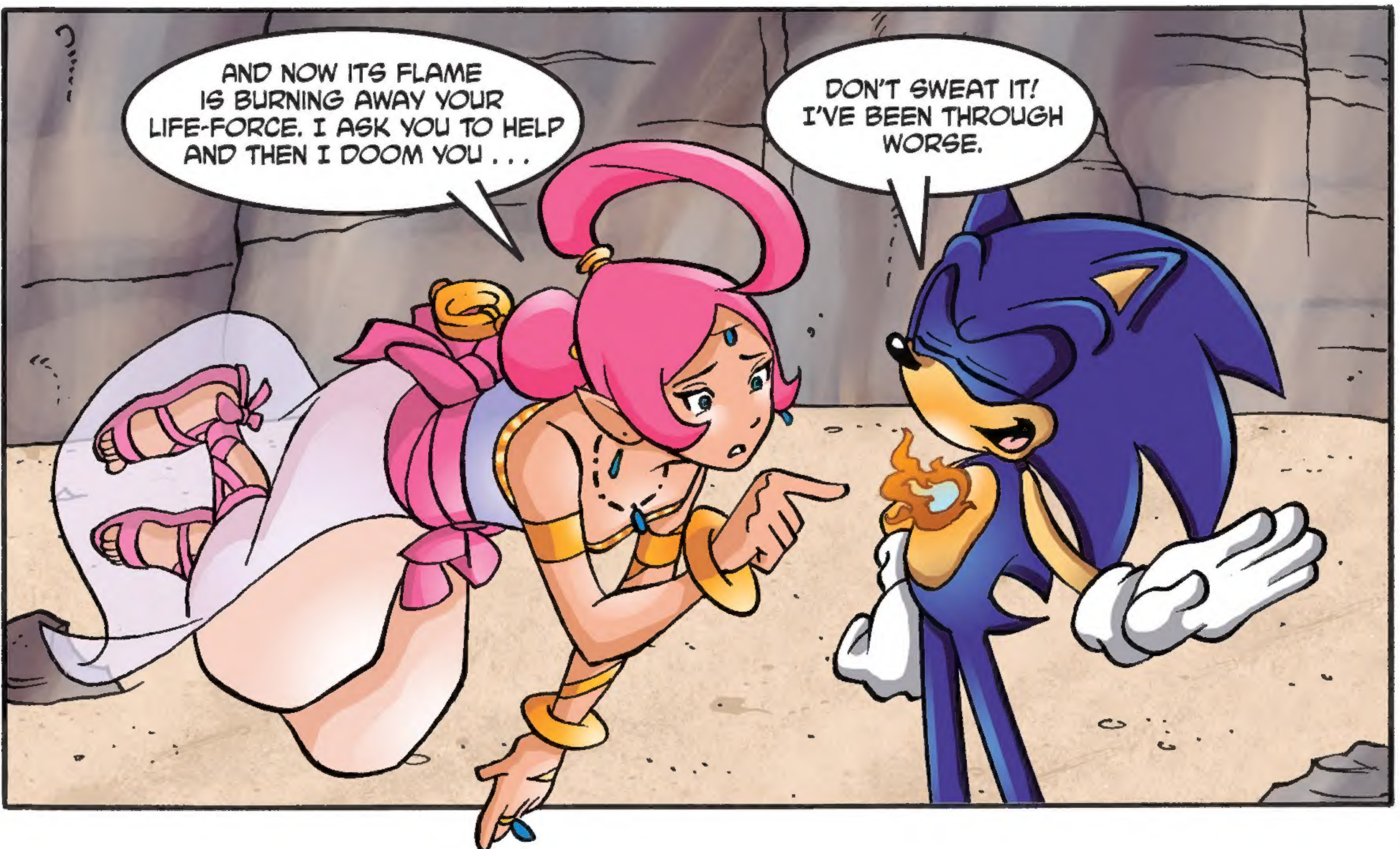
OH, RIGHT. THE WHOLE BURNING-HOLE-IN-MY-CHEST-THING.

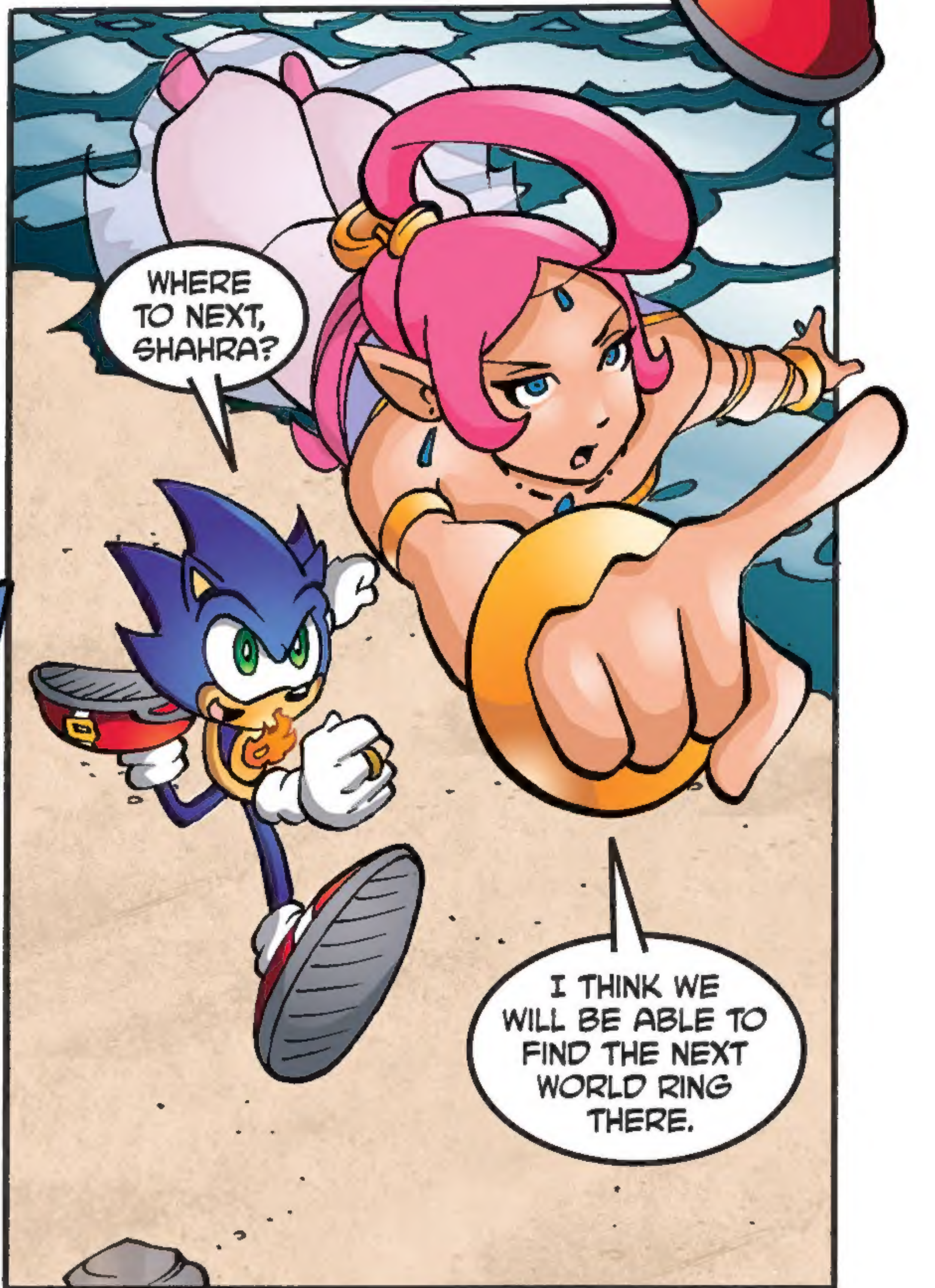
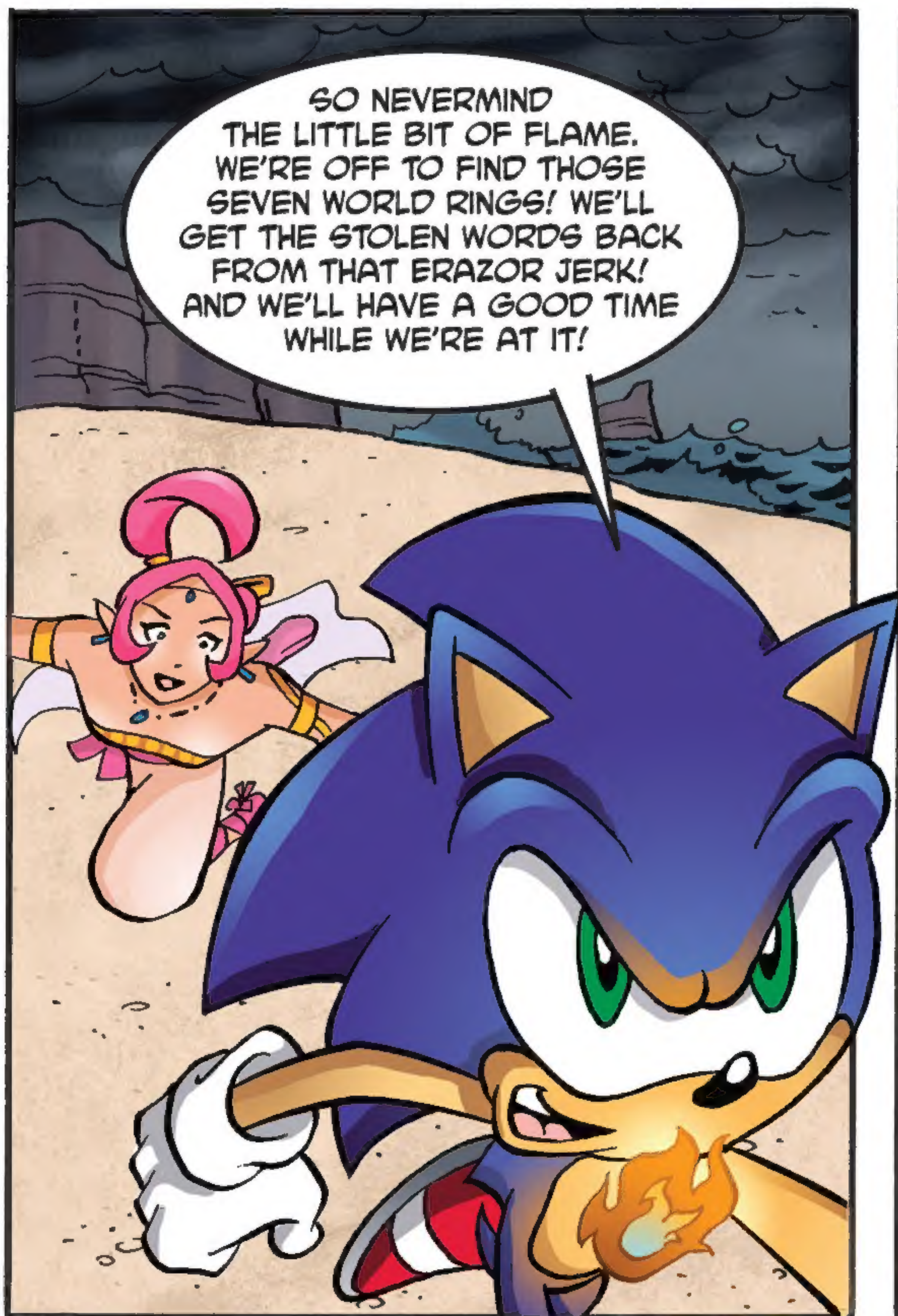
IT WAS RIGHT WHEN YOU BROUGHT ME INTO YOUR WORLD. ERAZOR TRIED TO SHOOT YOU WITH A FLAMING ARROW. BUT I WAS TOO QUICK AND CAUGHT THE MAGIC ARROWHEAD IN MY CHEST.




AND NOW ITS FLAME IS BURNING AWAY YOUR LIFE-FORCE. I ASK YOU TO HELP AND THEN I DOOM YOU . . .

DON'T SWEAT IT! I'VE BEEN THROUGH WORSE.







IT LOOKS LIKE
CAPTAIN BEMOTH HAS
THE RING TO COMMAND
THE WINDS AND
STORMS.

HEADS UP,
CAPTAIN. WE'RE COMING
FOR THAT WORLD RING --
-- AND THEN ON TO
THE WORLD!

END.